

Aruba's ONLY English newspaper

As millions sweat out the heat wave, blocks of lake ice keep these campers cool

By N. PERRY/H. RAMER
Associated Press

SQUAM LAKE, N.H. (AP) — As New England continued to bake in a heat wave Thursday, guests at one campground were keeping their food and beer cold with blocks of ice, harvested months earlier from a frozen lake.

And while some relief is expected after Thursday's peak heat in the eastern Great Lakes and New England, the National Weather Service said scorching temperatures will linger across the Ohio Valley and Mid-Atlantic region, and even grow in places, to as much as triple-digit highs in California and Arizona.



A worker wipes his face while working in temperatures above 90F (32C) at a gas line work site, Thursday, June 20, 2024, on a street in Boston.

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As millions sweat out the heat wave, blocks of lake ice keep these campers cool

Continued from Front

On Squam Lake in central New Hampshire, ice blocks about the size of microwave that had been packed in sawdust since winter were lifted from an insulated storage hut. It's been a tradition at the rustic Rockywold Deephaven Camps for more than a century, keeping fresh ice available throughout the summer and into the fall. Angela Wilcox, who has vacationed at the camp for 16 years, took her children and nephews boating Thursday in search of the lake's coldest swimming spot.

"This is the hottest it's ever been, especially in June," Wilcox said. "We're kind of shocked."

Heat index readings combining temperature and humidity were expected to surpass 100 degrees (37.7 C) in many locations across the country, possibly setting some all-time records, the weather service said, and because record overnight temperatures could prevent natural cooling, heat danger could build up indoors.

"Those without access to reliable air conditioning are urged to find a way to cool down," the service said in its forecast.

In a study published Thursday, a group of scientists said human-caused climate change has drastically increased the odds of experiencing the killer heat bak-



Will McLane loads a block of ice onto a wheelbarrow at Rockywold Deephaven Camps, Thursday, June 20, 2024, in Holderness, N.H.

ing the Southwestern United States, Mexico and Central America this month. Last year, the U.S. saw the greatest number of heat waves — abnormally hot weather lasting more than two days — since 1936.

Ocean waters are warmer as well, particularly in the Gulf of Mexico, where the season's first named storm, Alberto, was dumping heavy rain and flash flooding along a stretch of the coast from Mexico to Louisiana. Hurricane season this year is forecast to be among the most active in recent memory.

It's made for an unusually early start to summer ex-

tremes in the northeastern U.S.

It was already nearing 90 degrees (32.2 C) in New Hampshire as John Dupont opened his kettle corn stand at Concord's 50th annual Market Days Festival. He and his daughter set up two fans and were prepared to drape icy towels around their necks. "This year is a little challenging because of all the heat. Our kettle gets up to 150,000 BTUs," he said.

At Johnson's Dairy Bar in Northwood, Camryn Hildredth tried offer customers an empty dish for that heart-breaking moment when a scoop of rapidly melting

ice cream topples out of the cone, but not all would listen. "Everybody asks if we have AC. We do not," she said. "It's very hot and we get long lines, so it can get very rough sometimes."

In Burlington, Vermont, Jack Hurlbut said he's never been so hot in his life. "I live in Vermont for a reason, you know what I mean?" the 28-year-old said.

Hurlbut, who is experiencing homelessness, joined others in a shady spot on a lawn outside the public library, which was serving as a cooling center.

New York parks had free admission Thursday, and select

state-run pools and beaches opened early for swimming, Gov. Kathy Hochul said. New York City's beaches were available and while its public swimming pools don't open until next week, the city keeps a list of hundreds of free air-conditioned sites. "The humidity is pretty insane," said Anne-Laure Bonhomme, a health coach who was sightseeing in New York with her family.

Many school districts in New Jersey switched to early dismissals as the school year winds down, and at least two rescheduled their high school graduation ceremonies due to concerns about excessive heat and humidity. With much of Indiana broiling in the 90s, highway crews are starting shifts at 6 a.m., two hours earlier than in cooler seasons, and taking more frequent breaks in air-conditioned trucks in between filling potholes and other roadwork, said Kyleigh Cramer, a spokesperson for the Indiana Department of Transportation.

"They're able to get in those trucks and cool off right then and there because being out on the road is a little bit different than being in an office," Cramer said.

Some relief is coming: A cold front is moving into areas near Lake Michigan on Thursday and Friday, the weather service said. Chicago broke a 1957 record Monday with a high of 97 degrees (36.1 C). □

Associated Press



Independent presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. speaks during the Libertarian National Convention at the Washington Hilton in Washington, May 24, 2024.

Associated Press

By MEG KINNARD
Associated Press
COLUMBIA, S.C. (AP) — Inde-

pendent presidential candidate Robert F. Kennedy Jr. has failed to qualify for next

Robert F. Kennedy Jr. fails to qualify for CNN's debate. It'll be a showdown between Biden and Trump

week's debate in Atlanta, according to host network CNN, falling shy of benchmarks both for state ballot qualification and necessary polling.

The missed markers mean that the June 27 showdown will be solely between Democratic President Joe Biden and presumptive Republican nominee Donald Trump. That denies Kennedy a singular opportunity to stand alongside the leading candidates

in an attempt to lend legitimacy to his longshot bid and convince potential supporters that he has a shot at winning. In a statement Thursday, Kennedy called his exclusion from the debate "undemocratic, un-American, and cowardly." Both the Biden and Trump campaigns fear that Kennedy could play spoiler in what's anticipated to be a close general election.

According to the criteria set out by CNN, candidates

would be invited to participate in the debate if they had secured a place on the ballot in states totaling at least 270 votes in the Electoral College, the minimum needed to win the presidency.

Biden and Trump have easily cleared the polling threshold but won't be certified for the ballot until their parties formally nominate them later this summer. Both have secured enough delegates to lock in their nominations. □

U.S. bans on gasoline-powered leaf blowers grow, as does blowback from landscaping industry

By WAYNE PARRY

Associated Press

TRENTON, N.J. (AP) — The roar of the leaf blower has become an inescapable part of daily life in communities across America, leading towns and states to ban or restrict blowers that run on gasoline.

But the measures face blowback from the landscaping industry and some property owners who say that the battery-powered blowers favored by the legislation are costlier and not nearly as effective as the gasoline-powered ones.

"If you look at what this machine does, how loud it is, how much it pollutes, it's not normal to be accepted where we live, where our children play," said Jessica Stolzberg, a writer and crusader against gas-powered leaf blowers who helped get a ban on the machines enacted in her hometown of Montclair, New Jersey.

Since that ban took effect last October, "Montclair has been a healthier, cleaner, quieter community," she said. But the ban is being challenged in court by landscapers, she added.

Just as the push to move away from burning fossil fuels to power cars and homes is drawing opposition from business groups and numerous device owners, the move by government to force a switch to battery-powered



Antonio Espinoza, a supervisor with the Gras Lawn landscaping company, uses a gasoline-powered leaf blower to clean up around a housing development in Brick, N.J. on June 18, 2024.

Associated Press

leaf blowers has the industry complaining of increased costs and decreased performance under the new regulations. Though several local communities have already enacted full or partial bans on gas-powered leaf blowers, New Jersey is considering banning them statewide. A state Senate committee on Thursday advanced a bill that would ban such blowers most of the year, but would allow ones using four-stroke combustion engines to be used during peak cleanup periods in spring and fall. (Dirtier two-stroke models would be phased out after two years.) It's a compromise

the industry says it is willing to make in the interest of still being able to use the more powerful gas-powered blowers when they are needed most. "New Jersey is bombarded with leaves and stuff to clean up," said Rich Goldstein, president of the New Jersey Landscape Contractors Association, representing 550 companies in the state. "We're not California, we're not Florida. We have leaves. The average house in New Jersey, you take away 30 to 50 cubic feet of leaves each fall. That's a lot of leaves." Gas-powered blowers are being targeted by governments across the country. A

ban in California starts next month, and similar measures have passed in Washington, D.C., Portland, Oregon; Montgomery County, Maryland; Burlington, Vermont; and Evanston, Illinois, among other places. Doug O'Malley, director of Environment New Jersey, said more than 100 cities across the U.S. have banned or restricted gas-powered leaf blowers, which he called a major source of pollution. He said using such a blower for an hour creates as much pollution as driving a car for 1,100 miles (1,770 kilometers). But just as the push to move away from burning fossil fuels

to power cars and homes is drawing opposition from business groups and numerous device owners, the move by government to force a switch to battery-powered leaf blowers has the industry complaining of increased costs and decreased performance under the new regulations. "My company, I have \$150,000 to \$200,000 worth of gas-powered blowers," said Goldstein, head of the New Jersey landscapers' group. "What am I supposed to do, throw them in the garbage?" New Jersey's proposed bill, like others enacted in several U.S. cities, would provide financial assistance to the industry to defray the cost of purchasing new battery-powered blowers.

Cost is not the only concern, Goldstein said. "It's retrofitting your truck to be able to charge batteries throughout the day," he said. "And by doing that, you'd have to keep your diesel engine running, and that causes another issue. This is just a terrible idea."

He also said two-stroke engines, while less fuel-efficient than four-stroke ones, can do things that the more advanced models can't, such as being turned sideways to reach into hard-to-access places. Maplewood, New Jersey Mayor Nancy Adams said her community banned gas-powered blowers in January 2023. □

WHO and Eli Lilly caution patients against falling for fake versions of popular weight-loss drugs

The Associated Press

The World Health Organization and drugmaker Eli Lilly and Co. are warning people to be wary of fake versions of popular weight-loss and diabetes medicines. WHO said Thursday that it has fielded several reports of fake semaglutide — the active ingredient in Novo Nordisk's Wegovy and Ozempic — in all geographic regions of the world since 2022.

Lilly said in an open letter that it was "deeply concerned" about growing

online sales and social media posts involving phony or compounded versions of tirzepatide, the active ingredient behind its drugs Mounjaro and Zepbound. The Indianapolis-based company said it was the only lawful supplier of those drugs, and it does not provide tirzepatide to compounding pharmacies, wellness centers or online retailers.

Lilly said fake versions of its drugs frequently advertised or sold online are never safe to use.

Novo Nordisk has issued similar warnings in the past about its medications.

WHO said patients can protect themselves by using prescriptions from licensed physicians to buy the medications. The agency said patients also should avoid buying the drugs from unfamiliar sources.

Lilly said any products marketed as tirzepatide and not Mounjaro or Zepbound were not made by the drugmaker and are not approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. □



This photo combo provided by the FDA shows an authentic Ozempic needle, left and a counterfeit needle, right.

Associated Press

New York moves to limit 'addictive' social media feeds for kids

By **ANTHONY IZAGUIRRE**
Associated Press

New York Gov. Kathy Hochul on Thursday signed a bill that would allow parents to block their children from getting social media posts suggested by a platform's algorithm, a move to limit feeds critics argue are addictive.

Under the legislation, feeds on apps like TikTok and Instagram would be limited for people under age 18 to posts from accounts they follow, rather than content suggested by an automated algorithm. It would also block platforms from sending minors notifications on suggested posts between midnight and 6 a.m.

Both provisions could be turned off if a minor gets what the bill defines as "verifiable parental consent."

The law does not take effect immediately. State Attorney General Letitia James is now tasked with crafting rules to determine mechanisms for verifying a user's age and parental consent. After the rules are finalized, social media companies will have 180 days to implement the regulations.

"We can protect our kids. We can tell the companies that you are not allowed to do this, you don't have a



In this still image taken from video of the Office of the New York Governor, New York Gov. Kathy Hochul speaks during a bill signing, in New York, Thursday, June 20, 2024.

Associated Press

right to do this, that parents should have say over their children's lives and their health, not you," Hochul, a Democrat, said at a bill signing ceremony in Manhattan.

The signing is the first step in what is expected to be a drawn out process of rule making, and a probable lawsuit from social media companies to block the law.

NetChoice, a tech industry trade group that includes X and Meta, has criticized the legislation as unconstitutional.

"This is an assault on free speech and the open in-

ternet by the State of New York," Carl Szabo, vice president and general counsel of NetChoice, said in a statement. "New York has created a way for the government to track what sites people visit and their online activity by forcing websites to censor all content unless visitors provide an ID to verify their age."

Most of the biggest social media platforms send users a steady stream of suggested videos, photographs and other content, using a computer to try and predict what will keep users entertained and engaged for as long as possible. The

algorithms use a variety of factors to curate that content, including what a user has clicked on before and interests of other people with similar preferences.

The bill marks the latest attempt by a state to regulate social media as part of concerns over how children interact with the platforms.

California Gov. Gavin Newsom this week announced plans to work with the Legislature on a bill to restrict smartphone usage for students during the school day, though he didn't provide exact details on what the proposal would include.

Newsom in 2019 signed a bill allowing school districts to limit or ban smartphones while at school.

There hasn't been broad legislation on the subject at the federal level but it is a common point of discussion in Washington. This week the U.S. surgeon general called on Congress to put warning labels on social media platforms similar to those on cigarettes, citing mental health dangers for children using the sites.

Some tech companies, with pressure mounting, have decided to set up parental controls on their platforms. Last year, Meta, the parent company of Facebook and Instagram, created tools that allowed parents to set time limits on the apps for children.

The New York legislation, debuted last October, had faced major pushback in the Legislature from the tech industry.

"Social media platforms manipulate what our children see online to keep them on the platforms as long as possible," said James, a Democrat who pushed for the bill. "The more time young people spend on social media, the more they are at risk of developing serious mental health concerns." □

Judy Garland's hometown is raising funds to purchase stolen 'Wizard of Oz' ruby slippers



Ruby slippers once worn by Judy Garland in the "The Wizard of Oz," are displayed at a news conference, Sept. 4, 2018, at the FBI office in Brooklyn Center, Minn.

Associated Press

GRAND RAPIDS, Minn. (AP) — The Minnesota hometown of Judy Garland, the

actress who wore a pair of ruby slippers in "The Wizard of Oz," is raising money to

purchase the prized footwear after it was stolen from a local museum and then later turned over to an auction company.

Grand Rapids, Minnesota, where the late actress was born in 1922, is fundraising at its annual Judy Garland festival, which kicks off Thursday. The north Minnesota town is soliciting donations to bring the slippers back after an auction company takes them on an international tour before offering them up to prospective buyers in December.

"They could sell for \$1 million, they could sell for \$10 million. They're priceless," Joe Maddalena, Heritage

Auctions executive vice president, told Minnesota Public Radio. "Once they're gone, all the money in the world can't buy them back."

The funds will supplement the \$100,000 set aside this year by Minnesota lawmakers to purchase the slippers.

Dallas-based Heritage Auctions received the slippers from Michael Shaw, the memorabilia collector who originally owned the iconic shoes. Shaw had loaned them in 2005 to the Judy Garland Museum in Grand Rapids, Minnesota.

That summer, someone smashed through a display case and stole the sequins-

and-beads-bedazzled slippers. Their whereabouts remained a mystery until the FBI recovered them in 2018. The man who stole the slippers, Terry Jon Martin, 76, pleaded guilty in October to theft of a major artwork, admitting to using a hammer to smash the glass of the museum's door and display case in what his attorney said was an attempt to pull off "one last score" after turning away from a life of crime. He was sentenced in January to time served because of his poor health.

In March, a second man, 76-year-old Jerry Hal Saliterman, was charged in connection with the theft. □

'Teflon Mark' Rutte set to bring consensus-building skills from Dutch politics as next NATO chief

By MIKE CORDER

Associated Press

THE HAGUE, Netherlands (AP)

— Over the course of more than a dozen years at the top of Dutch politics, Mark Rutte got to know a thing or two about finding consensus among fractious coalition partners. Now he's on track to bring the experience of leading four Dutch multiparty governments to the international stage as NATO's new secretary general.

On Thursday, Romania's president withdrew from the race for the alliance's top job, leaving Rutte the only remaining candidate and all but certain to head the world's biggest military organization from October.

Rutte's appointment could be sealed by a meeting of NATO ambassadors in the coming days, or when President Joe Biden and his NATO counterparts meet for a summit in Washington on July 9-11.

The secretary general chairs meetings and guide sometimes delicate consultations among the 32 NATO member countries to ensure that an organization that operates on consensus can continue to function. The NATO leader also ensures that decisions are put into action and speak on behalf of all members.

Even before taking over from Jens Stoltenberg, Rutte has



NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg, left, greets Dutch Prime Minister Mark Rutte during arrivals for a NATO summit at NATO headquarters in Brussels, Monday, June 14, 2021.

Associated Press

been put to the test. Securing the job of NATO chief required all of Rutte's diplomatic skills as he convinced doubters, including Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orbán and Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan, to back his candidacy.

"It took a very long time. It's a complicated process, but it's an honor that it appears to have happened," Rutte told reporters in The Hague before riding his bicycle away from work.

A former NATO spokesperson said Rutte was a good fit for the job. "Like Stoltenberg,

Rutte is a pragmatist and one of the few European politicians to have developed a good working relationship not just with Joe Biden, but also with Donald Trump. That could prove a key asset for NATO after the November US presidential election," said Oana Lungescu, a former chief NATO spokesperson. Rutte "is seen as a safe pair of hands to lead NATO in turbulent times, just as Stoltenberg has done for the last decade," Lungescu, now a Fellow with the defense and security think tank, the Royal United Services Institute, told

The Associated Press.

From history scholar to business manager to politicsA history graduate and former human resources manager at consumer products multinational Unilever, Rutte became prime minister of the Netherlands for the first time in October, 2010. He quit last July as his four-party coalition wrangled over how to rein in migration. Although he has been one of Europe's top politicians for years, Rutte has remained down to earth.

He can often be seen riding his bicycle around his hometown of The Hague, or walking from

his office to a meeting eating an apple. When he handed in his government's resignation to King Willem-Alexander last year, he drove to an ornate royal palace in a Saab station wagon.

On Thursday, he posed in jeans, a white shirt and sunglasses for selfies with people outside his office while sitting on his bicycle.

While he was Dutch prime minister, Rutte was a strong supporter of Ukraine and its right to defend itself after Russia's 2022 invasion. Under his leadership, the Netherlands pledged military hardware to Kyiv including Leopard tanks and F-16 fighter jets.

He said the war on Europe's eastern flank was one of the reasons for seeking the job as NATO chief.

"With everything that happened in Ukraine and the instability in the world and a number of people who thought I could maybe do it, you can't just push that to one side," he said. "And it is, of course, an unbelievably interesting job."

Rutte's political career hasn't been all smooth sailing Rutte bounced back from a number of scandals while in office in the Netherlands. He was so adept at preventing political stains sticking to him that he earned the nickname Teflon Mark. □

Climate activists arrested for spray-painting private jets orange at London airport

LONDON (AP) — Two climate activists were arrested Thursday after cutting through a fence at a London airport and spray-painting private jets orange.

Essex police said two women were arrested in a private area of London Stansted Airport on suspicion of criminal damage and interference with the use or operation of national infrastructure.

Environmental group Just Stop Oil posted video of someone cutting through a security fence followed by a clip of a woman using a

fire extinguisher to spray orange paint on at least two private jets.

An airport spokesperson said the incident was three miles (5 kilometers) from the main terminal and police said there was no threat to the public.

The airfield, 30 miles (50 kilometers) northeast of central London, is the city's third busiest airport and is often used by government officials and visiting world leaders including U.S. President Joe Biden.

Just Stop Oil said the airfield was where Taylor Swift's jet was parked, but Essex po-

lice said the pop star's aircraft was not at the airport. Swift is doing three shows at London's Wembley Stadium from Friday through Sunday. The arrests come a day after two of the group's activists were detained for spraying orange paint on Stonehenge.

Just Stop Oil is one of many environmental groups around Europe that have received attention and blowback for disrupting sporting events, splashing paint and food on famous works of art and interrupting traffic to draw attention to global warming. □



In this photo released by "Just Stop Oil", an activist poses next to private airplane sprayed with orange paint at the Stansted Airport, Britain, Thursday, June 20, 2024.

Associated Press

As France reels from the rape of a Jewish girl, antisemitism comes to the fore in election campaign

By **OLEG CETINIC** and **ELISE MORTON**

Associated Press

PARIS (AP) — The alleged rape of a 12-year-old Jewish girl in a suspected antisemitic attack has sent shockwaves throughout France, and thrust concerns about antisemitism to the forefront of campaigning for the country's legislative elections. The National Rally party, which has tried to shed historical links to antisemitism, has its first real chance of forming a government if it comes out on top of the two-round elections that end July 7, as polls forecast. It would be the first far-right force to lead a French government since the Nazi occupation.

Far-left figures, meanwhile, have faced accusations of antisemitism linked to their response to Hamas' Oct. 7 attack on Israel and the ensuing war. Concerns came to the fore after two adolescent boys in a Paris suburb were given preliminary charges this week of raping a 12-year-old girl and religion-motivated violence, according to prosecutors. Lawyer and Jewish leader Elie Korchia told French broadcaster BFM that the girl is Jewish and that the word Palestine was mentioned during the attack. Politicians from all sides were quick to comment on the attack, which elicited widespread shock and concern, notably after a surge in antisemitic acts in France since the start of the Israel-Hamas war.



Anti far-left protesters display a banner that reads, "antisemitism is not a campaign promise" next to the entrance where the media conference will take place of the leaders of France left-wing parties for the upcoming election in Paris, Friday, June 14, 2024.

France has the largest Jewish population in Europe, but given its own World War II collaboration with the Nazis, antisemitic acts today open old scars. France also has the largest Muslim population in western Europe, and anti-Muslim acts have risen in recent years. On Wednesday evening, hundreds of people gathered in front of Paris City Hall to protest antisemitism. Many in the crowd were holding placards, including some bearing the slogan "raped because she's Jewish."

Further protests are planned for Thursday evening at Place de la Bastille. French Prime Minister Gabriel Attal wrote on X that the girl was "raped because she's Jewish," identifying it as an antisemitic attack, while French President Emmanuel Macron called on schools to hold a "discussion hour" on racism and antisemitism. Jordan Bardella, president of the National Rally, said that if elected he would "fight the antisemitism that has been plaguing France since Oct. 7." In the wake of reports of the attack, Bardella announced that his party was withdrawing support for one of its candidates over an antisemitic message on social media posted in 2018.

His predecessor as party president and the National Rally's 2022 presidential candidate, Marine Le Pen, accused the "extreme left" of "stigmatization of Jews" and of "instrumentalizing" the Israel-Hamas conflict. Leftist leader Jean-Luc Mélenchon denounced "antisemitic racism," though the France Unbowed party which he formerly led has itself faced accusations of antisemitism linked to the Israel-Hamas war. Although the alleged rape has heightened tensions regarding antisemitism in France before the June 30 and July 7 two-round parliamentary election, it is far from a new issue in French politics. More than 180,000 people across France, including 100,000 in Paris, marched in November to protest rising antisemitism in the wake of Israel's ongoing war against Hamas in Gaza — the biggest gathering to denounce antisemitism in France since a 1990 demonstration against the desecration of a Jewish cemetery. □

Associated Press

Heat wave claims lives of at least 125 in Mexico this year, hitting country's most vulnerable

By **FÉLIX MÁRQUEZ** and **MEGAN JANETSKY**

Associated Press

VERACRUZ, Mexico (AP) — When the nursing home in southern Mexico began to bake in the country's ongoing heat wave, staff cycled their elderly residents through the few cooling options they had. First, some would sit in front of fans buzzing in the sweltering heat of Veracruz. Then they'd be moved in front of the building's few treasured air conditioning units. Then it was back to the record-breaking temperatures roiling the Veracruz state. Anything to get through the climate change-fueled heat wave, which has left much of Mexico grappling

with the mounting human toll of the heat. "We have never before experienced a heat wave this intense, this powerful, this pervasive and this per-

sistent," said María Teresa Mendoza, director of the Cogra nursing home, operating for decades in the port of Veracruz. "This heat wave has killed many people here in Veracruz."

At least 125 people in the Latin American nation have died due to the heat this year, according to data from the country's health ministry. More than 2,300 more have suffered heat stroke, dehydration and sunburns. The heat deaths and larger ripple effects in Mexico have underscored the disproportionate effects climate change and rising global temperatures are having on some of the world's most vulnerable. Victims in Veracruz have made up nearly a third of the deaths as temperatures have reached 100 degrees in the humid Mexican gulf state. Caregivers like Mendoza have been left scrambling to ease the suffering of her patients. On Sunday, Mendoza stood in front of a group of elderly women in rocking chairs, many with their heads nodding downward due to the heat, which was hardly pierced by a set of fans rotating in front of them. "We're going to drink a bit of water. Sounds good?" she said. "Those are my girls." The heat has had cascading effects across Mexico. Howler monkeys and tropical birds have dropped dead from trees in southern Mexico. Residents scramble to fill up jugs of water, concerned about the heat compounding ongoing drought. □

ple here in Veracruz." At least 125 people in the Latin American nation have died due to the heat this year, according to data from the country's health ministry. More than 2,300 more have suffered heat stroke, dehydration and sunburns. The heat deaths and larger ripple effects in Mexico have underscored the disproportionate effects climate change and rising global temperatures are having on some of the world's most vulnerable. Victims in Veracruz have made up nearly a third of the deaths as temperatures have reached 100 degrees in the humid Mexican gulf state. Caregivers like Mendoza have been left scrambling to ease the suffering of her patients. On Sunday, Mendoza stood in front of a group of elderly women in rocking chairs, many with their heads nodding downward due to the heat, which was hardly pierced by a set of fans rotating in front of them. "We're going to drink a bit of water. Sounds good?" she said. "Those are my girls." The heat has had cascading effects across Mexico. Howler monkeys and tropical birds have dropped dead from trees in southern Mexico. Residents scramble to fill up jugs of water, concerned about the heat compounding ongoing drought. □



Pedro Murillo, a diver, jumps into the sea amid the heat in Veracruz, Mexico, Saturday, June 15, 2024.

Associated Press

Starting on July 1, 2024, a \$20 Sustainability Fee will be charged to tourists



PSA: Starting July 1st, 2024, Aruba will implement a \$20 Sustainability Fee for visitors arriving by air to the island. This fee will support a number of projects aimed at enhancing and improving sustainability efforts on the island.

The following persons are not required to pay this fee: residents, children under 8, repeat visitors who have already paid this fee to visit Aruba within the same calendar year, Aruban students who can prove they are studying at a foreign educational institution, and have been residents within the past 8 years.

The sustainability fee will be charged through the online Embarkation & Disembarkation (ED) Card platform while one is completing the ED card to enter Aruba. The website is <https://edcardaruba.aw/>.

Through a post on the social media platform Facebook, the page "Aruba" announced yesterday that starting on July 1, 2024, a \$20 Sustainability Fee will be charged to visitors coming to Aruba. This information caused a stir on social media, where tourists began sharing and reacting to the news.

Starting July 1, 2024,

Aruba will implement a \$20 sustainability fee for visitors arriving on the island by air. This fee will support a series of projects aimed at improvements and sustainability efforts on the island. Those exempt from this fee are: residents, children under 8 years old, visitors who have already

paid the fee earlier this year, Aruba students who can prove they are studying at a foreign educational institution, and those who have been residents for the past 8 years. The sustainability fee will be collected through the online platform (ED) while completing the entry card for Aruba," the statement noted.

As of yesterday, the post had more than 200 comments and 100 shares. Some commenters expressed their approval of this initiative, saying, "I trust that the Government of Aruba will make good use of this for the benefit of the island. I have been visiting Aruba for 35 years and hope that costs will not rise." □

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Aruba's Bocas: home to the rarest fossil reefs on the planet!



(Oranjestad)— If you've been to the northern coast of Aruba already, you've probably noticed how the ground differs entirely from the sandy beaches on the southern part of the island. These hard surfaces, with sharp bumps and holes are actually fossilized coral reefs, of which its growth and changes can be traced back to the last glacial period.

On May 30 2023, geoscientists, Dr. Patrick Boyden from the Marum research

faculty at the University of Bremen, Prof. dr. Alessio Rovere from the Ca' Foscari University of Venice and Prof. dr. Gianfranco Scicchitano, from the University of Bari Aldo Moro, presented their research on these fossilized coral reefs at the University of Aruba. Their focus for their research included studying the health and formation patterns of these coral reefs, and to investigate how these reefs have responded and can respond to fluctuating sea levels or extreme weather,


like hurricanes and tsunamis.

Through underwater and land surveillance, and 3D models of the reefs, they were able to narrow down when these formations started to take place. They were also able to track the fluctuation of sea levels during the past hundred or even thousands of years, and the effects that this fluctuation has had on the coral reefs of the windward side of Aruba.

These findings can certainly put things into perspective. The ground on which we have walked many times in the northern part of the island hold such rich history, history that dates back to a time that most of us cannot even imagine. As the scientists themselves have pointed out, these fossilized reefs on the windward side are truly an incredible and rare remnant of geological history, as they provide a clear view of how these reefs have formed.


This research is also important for the future of coral reefs on the island. By studying rising sea levels and climate impact on these coral reefs, we are able to take concrete action in protecting and preserving our coral reefs. So, if you are ever visiting one of the bocas or driving along the northern part of the island, please be conscious to help protect our natural historical remnant. Oh, and wear (coral-friendly) sunscreen! □





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Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort!

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing Distinguished Visitors of Aruba. The honorees were respectively honored with a certificate for their years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honorary certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

The three levels of honor are as follows:

Distinguished Visitor (10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)
Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

The honorees were:

Distinguished Visitors
Mr. Donald & Mrs. Linda Durant from Rochester Hills Michigan, United States.

Mr. Jorgino Willems representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of Divi Aruba Phoenix Beach Resort bestowed the certificate upon the honorees, presented them with gifts, and thanked them for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination, as their home away from home.

The top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honorees were:

- Aruba's people
- Aruba's beaches.
- Aruba's weather.
- Aruba's restaurants.
- "Happy Island"



On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our

sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honorees for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island". □

Papiamento words and phrases you may want to know!

(Oranjestad)—Aruba is a melting pot of different nationalities, cultures and languages. Primarily for this reason, the average Aruban can understand and speak Dutch, English and Spanish relatively well. However, as much as we pride ourselves in being able to communicate with almost everyone, we cherish our native tongue Papiamento above all else. Want to learn some common words in our language? Here are a few basic words and phrases that can get you a hat tip from an Aruban.

When you arrive at the airport in Aruba, one of the first words in Papiamento you may encounter is "Bon bini." Bon bini in Papiamento means welcome, and is probably the most famous Papiamento word for tourists.

Hi! Bye!

To be fair, there is no unique way to say "hello" in Papiamento. At least, not officially. We often just use the English "hello" or "hey", or Dutch "hallo" to greet someone. We do however, always follow it up with "con bay?" or "con ta?" Con bay is a shortened version of "con ta bay?", which essentially means "how are you?"

The word "con" in Papiamento means "how?" and is pronounced with a rounder "o" sounds, like in the English word "cone". "Ta bay" refers to how you are doing.

When we say goodbye, we use the word "ayo" (not like the Ayo Rock Formation, but also...kinda?). We may also use "te oro", which means "see you later".

Greetings during the day

Most, if not all, languages have different ways to greet according to the time of day, and Papiamento is no different. Since Papiamento is heavily

influenced from Portuguese and Spanish, some of these phrases may look very familiar.

1. Bon dia is used in the morning, up to about noon. Bon dia essentially means good morning. The word "bon" means "good", and while "dia" does not directly mean "morning" in English, it is used often to refer to the morning time.
2. Bon tardi. In the afternoon to early evening hours, we use "bon tardi" to greet people, which means "good afternoon". "Tardi" actually comes from the word "atardi", which directly translates to "afternoon". However, the shortened "tardi" is used to keep the rhythm on the phrase. And the same could be said for our last greeting of the day.
3. Bon nochi. You guessed it, "bon nochi" means "good night". Just like "tardi", "nochi" is actually the shortened version of the word "anochi".

Yes...no...maybe?

The affirmative and negative expression is very simple in Papiamento. Just like Spanish, our yeses are "si" and our no's are "no". Pretty easy right? If you want to gain some extra points from younger locals, you can also say "se", which is a more casual affirmative used mostly by the younger generation. However, do note: some older generations may find this improper and not respectful, so keep that in mind.

Thanks man...

Lastly, a word that we can also say more often is "danki", which means literally "thank you". "Danki" is derived from the Dutch word "bedankt". Though we don't really have a translation for "I appreciate it" in English, we do use "masha danki" to convey the message. "Masha" means "a lot" or "very", so "masha danki" means "thank you very much". □

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Aruba to me



ORANJESTAD — You are back and we would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island.

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Last but not least: check out our website, Instagram and Facebook page! Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again.

For today we received a lovely message from Shikha Dixit from Washington, DC, USA.

She wrote to us saying: "Aruba to me is a dreamland to celebrate. Here I am to Cel-



brate my 50th birthday."

We wish you a very happy birthday Shikha!

Thank you for sending us this wonderful message sharing what Aruba means to you with us and our readers! ☐

Prohibited by law: leaving the island with seashells, white sand or corals

(Oranjestad)—Often times, the customs department at the airport intercepts many tourists leaving the island with seashells, white sand and/or corals as souvenirs.

Conforming to the international treaty of CITES and our local law which protects our Flora & Fauna, it is absolutely prohibited to take any seashell, sand and coral outside of Aruba. This is to protect our environment. The high number of seashells, coral and amount of sand confiscated is very strange and it is suspected that our own locals are the ones selling these to the tourists, which is unacceptable. Upon confiscation at the airport, you can also face a fine that they have to pay be-

fore leaving. This is surely not a pleasant experience for the tourist. This also leads to a negative reaction which can put our tourism in a negative light.

Though we love to accommodate our visitors, let's all give nature the respect it deserves by protecting our environment. Stop collecting seashells, white sand and corals from our shores and stop buying or accepting these from local sellers or companies.

We want our future generations and visitors to enjoy the beauty of our beaches, shells and corals in a sustainable way, without destroying or disrupting the Aruban ecosystem. Help us protect what is ours! ☐



Planning on snorkeling? Get to know our “Dorado”



(Oranjestad)—If you're ever planning on snorkeling during your vacation on Aruba, you may spot fish that you can't recognize. One of these may be the “Dorado”, a common fish that swims all year long in the waters of Aruba. Here's some information about the beloved Dorado.

Dorado has many different names it can be referred to.

Dral, Dorao, Drals, Drado, are some of them in Papiamentu. In English, it is also called Mahi Mahi, Dolphinfish, or Dorado. It's a good example to reflect on why there can be many names. The same fish becomes known by different common names, why? Common names come only when a group of people, to understand each other, assign a name to a fish. Mahi Mahi, for example, comes from Ha-

waii and means "very strong". Dorado is based on Spanish and refers to the golden yellow color that the fish shines with under the sun. Why it's called Dolphinfish in English is not well defined and while there are several stories around this, none have been confirmed.

Dorado is found in all tropical to subtropical oceans around the world. Dorado is very popular both for recreational fishing and for consumption. It is known among fishermen as an exciting catch and a fish that puts up a good fight. Its meat is very good for consumption and it is also commercially fished for that reason.

They grow very fast, up to

2.7 inches (almost 7 cm) per week. They can live up to a maximum of 5 years although very few reach that age. Most become adults within 1 year but many become reproductive after just 5 or 6 months and reproduce very quickly too. They live in open water on the surface most of the time. Many fish seek them around sushi lines or floating objects on the sea. Often you will find a group landing together and if you keep a male on the line, often the others will stay close or can keep the group interested by giving shrimp or squid.

Description:

Dorado has a distinctive body. It has a large tail and its long, flat body ends in a

large blunt head. Its color of yellow and green or blue makes it immediately recognizable, even with small variations in these colors.

Dorado has clear differences between adult females and males. The male is larger and can easily reach 50 to 80 pounds and has a much flatter head compared to the female. Therefore, male Dorados are also called "bull Dorado".

Dorado can be found in our waters around the island all year round, but there are periods when it is easier to find than others. □

Source: The Department of Agriculture, Livestock, and Fisheries (Santa Rosa).

Episode CXXXV 135 - Ancient technics & Art

NOORD — Our weekly column 'Island Insight' reveals and uncovers interesting information and amazing stories along the way. In this episode we are going to refer to ancient technics in art.

Our goal is to keep ancient techniques and methods alive and to incorporate cultural philosophies into this form of works that are using their own cultural accountability, a philosophical tenet that still allows their motive and ambition to be shown. Traditional crafts are perhaps the most tan-

gible manifestation of the intangible cultural heritage of a people. Safeguarding must be aimed primarily at encouraging artisans to continue to manufacture their products and pass on their knowledge and skills to others, particularly within their communities.

There are numerous expressions within traditional crafts, from tools, clothing, accessories, containers, ritual objects, musical instruments, etc. Some of these expressions can become a legacy that is transmitted from generation to gen-

eration. The techniques required to create craft objects are as varied as the objects themselves and can range from delicate and painstaking work to rough chores such as making a sturdy basket or thick blanket.

Etnia Nativa persists in an ancestral technique teaching how to work raw clay for example, in the native way as our ancestors did. It is a whole process that begins by guiding the participants to specific places where even the clay is preserved intact, thus they learn to



identify the best raw material and to distinguish high-quality material from the rest of the earth. Once this raw material is extracted, they are guided towards a work of purification of the dry material. Next, when adding water, the cleaning and detoxification begins to end in dehydration and have the raw clay in your hands.

As with other forms of intangible cultural heritage, globalization creates serious obstacles to the survival of traditional forms of crafts. Mass production often supplies the goods necessary for daily life at a lower cost

of time and money than manual production. Also, environmental and climatic pressures influence traditional crafts and the deforestation of land diminishes the abundance of the main natural resources and supply. Even when handicraft becomes cottage industry, larger-scale production can cause harm to the environment.

Did you say you love Aruba its origins and cultural heritage? Than this private encounter with our columnist anthropologist is just something for you. Sessions created in a gorgeous setting for visitors with special interests. Appointment is required. etnianaativa03@gmail.com or WhatsApp at 297 592 2702 for an exclusive and insiders' experience. □



Article by: Etnia Nativa

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Did you know about...

Basic driving rules on Aruba (part 1)

(Oranjestad)—Have you ever felt confused when you're driving on the highways or backstreets of Aruba? Then we present a simple guide to some of the basic rules of Aruban traffic, along with some tips for things to look out for.

Speed limit

Legally, the speed limit on the four-lane highways is 80 km/h. This speed limit also counts for the main roads that are connected to the highways. The minimum speed is 50 km/h. Most people drive around 60 km/h on the main roads and about 70 km/h on the highways. There are also areas that indicate a speed limit on a sign; these are usually around populated and school areas.

The four-lane highways contain the left-lane, also known as the "fast" lane for each direction. Here is where vehicles can drive up to the maximum speed. However, legally it is not permitted to drive for long periods of time on the left lane. This lane is primarily designed for drivers to switch lanes before a roundabout, for example, if your exit on the roundabout is on your far left. The general lane to drive in—both at maximum and minimum speed—is on the right lane.

Roundabouts

Speaking of roundabouts, it is important to know where you have to enter and drive on the roundabout to make your exit. A good rule of thumb is to count the exits starting from your right side. So, exit 1 would be on your right; exit 2 would be straight ahead; exit 3 would be on your far left and exit 4 would lead to the road paralleled to the one you're on, heading in the other direction.

Most roundabouts have these 4 exits, so they are relatively simple. When you're driving on the four-lane highway, it is important to know when to switch to the left lane to make your exit: if your exit is on your far left (exit 3), then



you need to switch to the left lane on the highway before nearing the roundabout so you can take the path that leads you directly to your exit. If your exit is on your right or if you're going straight ahead, you can keep driving in the right lane of the highway.

It's also important to know that vehicles about to enter the roundabout must yield to those already on it. A good rule of thumb is to look out if someone is coming from your left side.

However, other roundabouts can be quite tricky to navigate...

Watty Vos Boulevard (the "paperclip" roundabout)

Probably the biggest roundabout on the island, the "paperclip" roundabout on the Watty Vos Boulevard is one of the trickier roundabouts that could—and has—caused confusion among both tourists and locals. However, once you take a good look at it, it's fairly simple. The

basis is just the same as a regular roundabout (left exit? left lane! etc.), but instead of having four different exits like on a regular roundabout, now you have two extra; one on the right and the other on the left side of the roundabout. The rules don't change at all, you just have to keep an extra eye open.

Airport roundabout

Ah, yes. The infamous airport roundabout. The favorite roundabout amongst local, because of its easy (hard) lanes that never (always) cause confusion among drivers. Sarcasm aside, this roundabout can be tricky to enter, especially when you're driving from the direction of the airport heading. When you're driving away from the airport reaching the roundabout, you'll be faced with three lanes. The far right lane is to take the exit 1 out heading east (right lane of highway). The middle exit is used for exit 1 (left lane of highway), 2 and 3. The far left exit is used to only exit on exit 3 (left lane of highway) and 4.

"Las Americas" roundabout

The Las Americas roundabout is located near the Talk of the Town hotel, west from the airport roundabout. This roundabout may look like a regular roundabout—and for the most part, it is. However, when you are driving from the east going in the direction of town, please take note that there are two exits on your right.

When you're driving towards this roundabout, you'll notice that the road becomes wider, splitting into two lanes. The right lane is used to take the first and second exit on the right. If you want to exit straight ahead, you must drive on the left lane!

It's always scary to drive in new places where the traffic may look and work differently, but once you get it right once, you'll get the hang of it in no time. Additionally, all roundabouts and roads on Aruba have signs and arrows painted on the road to help guide you. So take your time, keep your eyes open and don't forget to wear a seat belt! □



CROSSWORD

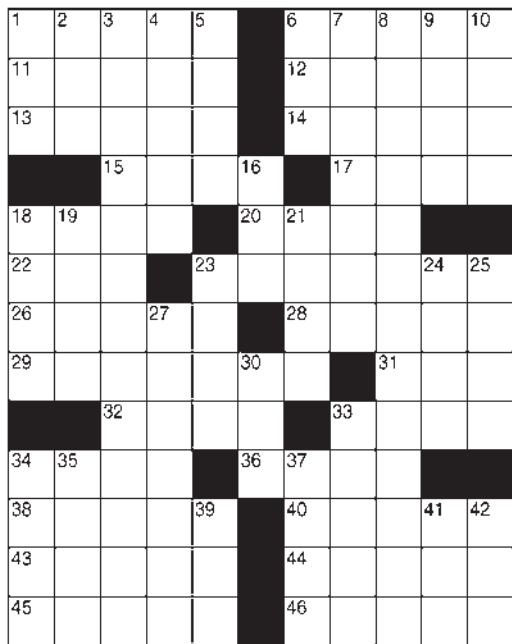
By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS 46 Corrupt

- 1 Steak-house order
6 Pool floats
11 Pueblo material
12 Set off
13 Synthetic fiber
14 Leader of the Pussycats
15 Pot start
17 Mall unit
18 Crony
20 Himalayan beast
22 Web picture format
23 Fanatical
26 Summon up
28 High-strung
29 Takes out
31 Director Ang
32 Goneril's father
33 Grazing group
34 Producer's nightmare
36 China setting
38 Crew member
40 Poet Breton
43 Each
44 Perfect
45 Hardly wordy
- DOWN**
1 Way off
2 Musical princess
3 Minion
4 Dark wood
5 Circus sight
6 British rule in India
7 John or Paul
8 Stylish sort
9 Macbeth's witches, e.g.
10 Dance unit
16 Retina setting
18 Old
19 Not recorded
21 Puts away
23 Letter after epsilon
24 Manipulative sort
25 Future flower
27 Ones to hang on to
30 Period
33 Delhi tongue
34 Stew
35 Valentine word
37 Uttered
39 Reuben base
41 Scoundrel
42 English cathedral city

GAZA ARMANI
EDIT FEEDON
AUNT ACROSS
REFERRAL
ANN POLES
HINDS STARE
ODD MIA
ELECT LABEL
DELLA ERR
ATTITUDE
HEARTH ISIS
ANGELO SCOT
TEETER TORO

Yesterday's answer



3-29

AXYDLBAAXR
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

3-29

CRYPTOQUOTE

C B U Q G , G K B M J . Q Y I Z M O .

L Y N B Y X Y . G K B U O , O U Y D T .

D M O C B M D N N S , O D U Y .

— F D N G O B Q M Y S

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: DANCE WITH THE WAVES, MOVE WITH THE SEA, LET THE RHYTHM OF THE WATER SET YOUR SOUL FREE. — CHRISTY ANN MARTINE

Cruise ship Schedule: June 01 - June 25 2024

			ARR	DEPT	BERTH	
SAT	01	NORWEGIAN JADE	10.00	20.00	C	1
THU	06	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	C	1
TUE	11	SILVER SHADOW	08.00	23.00	B	1
		ADVENTURE OF THE SEAS	08.00	20.00	C	1
		CARNIVAL MARDI GRAS	13.00	23.00	I	1
WED	12	CARNIVAL HORIZON	07.00	15.00	B	1
		RHAPSODY OF THE SEAS	09.00	21.00	C	1
TUE	18	CELEBRITY BEYOND	08.00	21.00	B	1
		CARNIVAL CELEBRATION	08.00	22.00	C	1
		CARNIVAL VISTA	13.00	23.00	I	1
TUE	25	CARNIVAL HORIZON	09.00	22.00	C	1

Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basic—but important—information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

lets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

Supermarket hours



Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

Electrical power



Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of out-

Drinking water



The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

Safety



Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.

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24/7

So long plastic air pillows: Amazon shifting to recycled paper filling for packages in North America

By **MICHELLE CHAPMAN**
AP Business Writer

Amazon is shifting from the plastic air pillows used for packaging in North America to recycled paper because it's more environmentally sound, and it says paper just works better.

The company said Thursday that it's already replaced 95% of the plastic air pillows with paper filler in North America and is working toward complete removal by year's end. "We want to ensure that customers receive their items undamaged, while using as little packaging as possible to avoid waste, and prioritizing recyclable materials," Amazon said.

It is the company's largest plastic packaging reduction effort in North America to date and will remove almost 15 billion plastic air pillows from use annually.

Almost all customer deliveries for Prime Day this year, which happens next month, will contain plastic no air pillows, according to Amazon. The e-commerce giant has faced years of criticism about its use of plastic from environmental groups, including a nonprofit called Oceana, which has been releasing its own reports on Amazon's use of plastic packaging.

Matt Littlejohn, senior vice president of strategic initiatives at Oceana, said that Amazon's efforts to reduce plastic packaging is welcome news, but that there's still more that the company can do.

"While this is a significant step forward for the company, Amazon needs to build on this momentum and fulfill its multiyear commitment to transition its North America fulfillment centers away from plastic," Littlejohn said in a prepared statement. "Then, the company should expand these efforts and also push innovations like reusable packaging to move away from single-use packaging everywhere it sells and ships." There has also been broad support among Amazon investors who have urged the company to outline how will reduce waste.

The company disclosed the total of single-use plas-



The Amazon logo is seen, June 15, 2023, at the Vivattech show in Paris.

tic across global operations for the first time in 2022 after investors sought more details on plans to reduce waste. The company said that it used 85,916 metric tons of single-use plastic that year, an 11.6% decrease from 2021.

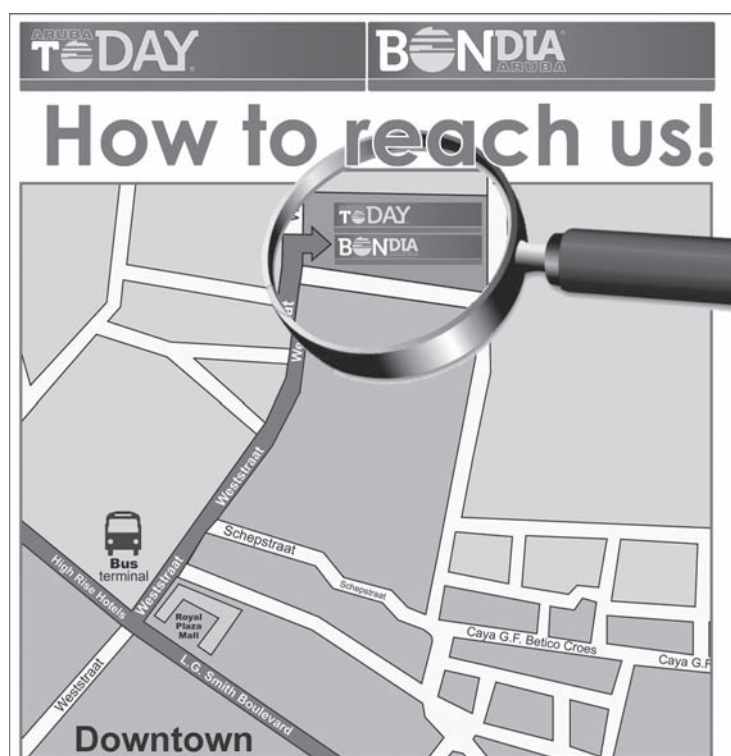
Amazon began transition away from plastic air pillows in October at an automated fulfillment center in Ohio. The company said that it was able to test and learn at the center there, which helped it move quickly on transitioning to recycled paper filling. The transition process included changing out machinery and training employees on new systems and machines. Amazon discovered through testing that the paper filler, which is made from 100%

recyclable content and is curbside recyclable, offers the same, if not better protection during shipping compared with plastic air pillows, the company said. Christian Garcia, who works at Amazon's fulfillment center in Bakersfield, California, said in a release that the paper filler is easier to work with and that the machinery gives staff more space so that it's easier to pack orders. Ongoing efforts to reduce waste include a campaign to ship items without any additional packaging, the company said. In 2022, 11% of all of Amazon's packages shipped worldwide were without added delivery packaging.

Other efforts include piloting new technology with

artificial intelligence and robotics company Glacier to use AI-powered robots to automate the sorting of recyclables and collect real-time data on recycling streams for companies. It's also partnering with the U.S. Department of Energy on new materials and recycling programs. □

Associated Press



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Donald Sutherland, the towering actor whose career spanned 'M.A.S.H.' to 'Hunger Games,' dies at 88

By JAKE COYLE

AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Donald Sutherland, the Canadian actor whose wry, arrestingly off-kilter screen presence spanned more than half a century of films from "M.A.S.H." to "The Hunger Games," has died. He was 88. Sutherland died Thursday in Miami after a long illness, according to a statement from Creative Artists Agency, which represented him.

Kiefer Sutherland said on X he believed his father was one of the most important actors in the history of film: "Never daunted by a role, good, bad or ugly. He loved what he did and did what he loved, and one can never ask for more than that."

The tall and gaunt Sutherland, who flashed a grin that could be sweet or diabolical, was known for offbeat characters like Hawkeye Pierce in Robert Altman's "M.A.S.H.," the hippie tank commander in "Kelly's Heroes" and the stoned professor in "Animal House."

"Donald was a giant, not only physically but as a talent," Sutherland's "M.A.S.H." co-star Elliott Gould said in a statement to The Associated Press as many paid tribute. "He was also enormously kind and generous."

Before transitioning into a long career as a respected character actor, Sutherland epitomized the unpredictable, antiestablishment cinema of the 1970s. He never stopped working, appearing in nearly 200 films and series. Over the decades, Sutherland showed his range in more buttoned-down but still eccentric roles in Robert Redford's "Ordinary People" and Oliver Stone's "JFK." More, recently, he starred in the "Hunger Games" films. A memoir, "Made Up, But Still True," is due out in November.

"I love to work. I passionately love to work," Sutherland told Charlie Rose in 1998. "I love to feel my hand fit into the glove of some other character. I feel a huge freedom time stops for me. I'm not as crazy as I used to be, but I'm still a little crazy."

Born in St. John, New Bruns-



Actor Donald Sutherland appears at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences in Beverly Hills, Calif., on Oct. 13, 2017.

wick, Donald McNichol Sutherland was the son of a salesman and a mathematics teacher. Raised in Nova Scotia, he was a disc jockey with his own radio station at age 14.

"When I was 13 or 14, I really thought everything I felt was wrong and dangerous, and that God was going to kill me for it," Sutherland told The New York Times in 1981. "My father always said, 'Keep your mouth shut, Donnie, and maybe people will think you have character.'"

Sutherland began as an engineering student at the University of Toronto but switched to English and started acting in school theatrical productions. While studying, he met Lois Hardwick, an aspiring actress. They married in 1959 but divorced seven years later. After graduating in 1956, Sutherland attended the London Academy of Music and Dramatic Art to study acting. He began appearing in West End plays and British television. After a move to Los Angeles, a series of war films changed his trajectory. His breakthrough was "The Dirty Dozen" (1967), in which he played Vernon Pinkley, the officer-impersonating psychopath. 1970 saw the release of the World War II yarn "Kelly's Heroes" and "M.A.S.H.," a smash hit that catapulted Sutherland to stardom.

"There is more challenge in character roles," Sutherland told The Washington Post in 1970. "There's longevity. A good character actor can show a different face in every film and not bore the public." If Sutherland had had his way, Altman would have been fired from "M.A.S.H." He was unhappy with the director's unorthodox, improvisational style. But the film caught on beyond anyone's expectations.

Sutherland identified with its anti-war message. Outspoken against the Vietnam War, he along with actress Jane Fonda and others founded the Free Theater Associates in 1971. Banned by the Army because of their political views, they performed in venues near military bases in Southeast Asia in 1973.

"I thought I was going to be part of a revolution that was going to change movies and its influence on people," Sutherland told the Los Angeles Times.

His career as a leading man peaked in the 1970s, when he starred in films by the era's top directors even if they didn't always do their best work with him. Sutherland, who frequently said he considered himself at the service of a director's vision, worked with Federico Fellini (1976's "Fellini's Casanova"), Bernardo Bertolucci (1976's "1900"), Claude Chabrol

(1978's "Blood Relatives") and John Schlesinger (1975's "The Day of the Locust").

One of his finest performances came as a detective in Alan Pakula's "Klute" (1971). During filming he met Fonda, with whom he had a three-year relationship that began at the end of his second marriage to actor Shirley Douglas. He and Douglas divorced in 1971 after having twins: Rachel and Kiefer, who was named after Warren Kiefer, the writer of Sutherland's first film, "Castle of the Living Dead."

Nicolas Roeg's psychological horror film "Don't Look Now" (1973) was another high point. Sutherland starred with Julie Christie as a grieving couple who move to Venice after their daughter's death. The film included a famous, explicit sex scene, artfully edited.

"Nic and I thought that maybe I would die in the process of it, so much were we committed," Sutherland once said. His admiration for the film and Roeg was such that he and his next wife, actress Francine Racette, named their first-born child Roeg.

Sutherland married Racette in 1972 and remained with her. She survives him. They had two other children: Rossif, named after the director Frederic Rossif; and Angus Redford, named after Red-

ford.

Robert Redford's "Ordinary People" (1980) also dealt with the loss of a child. His directorial debut, starring Sutherland as the father of a family destroyed by tragedy, won four Oscars, including best picture.

Sutherland was never nominated for an Academy Award but received an honorary Oscar in 2017. He did win an Emmy in 1995 for the TV film "Citizen X" and won two Golden Globes for "Citizen X" and the 2003 TV film "Path to War."

Sutherland's New York stage debut in 1981, though, went terribly. He played Humbert Humbert in Edward Albee's adaptation of Vladimir Nabokov's "Lolita," and the reviews were merciless; it closed after a dozen performances. A down period in the '80s followed, with failures like the 1981 satire "Gas" and the 1984 comedy "Crackers." But Sutherland continued to work steadily and increasingly worked in television, most memorably in HBO's "Path to War," in which he played President Lyndon Johnson's defense secretary, Clark Clifford.

After son Kiefer emerged as a star, Sutherland appeared in numerous films with him, including the 1996 thriller "A Time to Kill" and 2015's "Forsaken." But he turned down the chance to play the father on the hit series "24."

To a younger generation, Sutherland was most familiar as President Snow in "The Hunger Games" franchise beginning with the 2012 original. Sutherland sought out the part.

"The role of the president had maybe a line in the script. Maybe two. Didn't make any difference," Sutherland told GQ. "I thought it was an incredibly important film, and I wanted to be a part of it." In his final years, the nonstop actor mused about dying on-screen, for real.

"I'm really hoping that in some movie I'm doing, I die — but I die, me, Donald — and they're able to use my funeral and the coffin," Sutherland told the AP. "That would be absolutely ideal. I would love that." □

Willie Mays was baseball's greatest living Hall of Famer and the heir apparent isn't obvious

By NOAH TRISTER
AP Baseball Writer

Amid all the tributes and memories about the legendary Willie Mays, consider this perspective on his greatness: He may have been baseball's greatest living Hall of Famer not just at the time of his death this week, but from the moment he was inducted in 1979.

Mays' combination of hitting, baserunning and defensive brilliance was so extraordinary that simply calling him an all-time great feels insufficient. Some sort of superlative is warranted, and while "greatest living Hall of Famer" is obviously subjective, few would argue that Mays had a strong case.

As for who deserves that title now well, it's a much tougher question, especially since Mays was preceded in death in recent years by the likes of Hank Aaron, Frank Robinson, Tom Seaver and Joe Morgan. It's been a sobering period for baseball fans as so many stars from the 1960s and 1970s have passed on.



Oakland Athletics' Rickey Henderson dives for third base to steal his 939th career base to set the all-time stolen base record during the fourth inning of a baseball game against the New York Yankees, May 1, 1991, in Oakland.

Associated Press

If Mays' godson, Barry Bonds, were in the Hall, he'd be a pretty easy choice as the game's greatest living Hall of Famer, but PED-related controversy continues to keep him out. Here are a few other candidates for this unofficial but compelling honor:

Rickey Henderson Henderson is the leader among living Hall of Famers in Baseball Reference's version of wins above replacement, and while he's known largely for his speed, at his peak he was an all-around offensive force. Henderson dominated the 1989 playoffs

with Oakland and the won his lone MVP award the following year. He retired with a career on-base percentage of .401 and is still the all-time leader in stolen bases and runs. The gap in steals between him and second-place Lou Brock is the same as the gap be-

tween Brock and 46th-place Jimmy Rollins.

Mike Schmidt

In a 13-year span from 1974-86, the Philadelphia third baseman won three MVPs, eight National League home run titles and 10 Gold Gloves. And his numbers which included three straight on-base percentage titles and seven 100-walk seasons have aged well through the years. Schmidt struck out a lot and rarely had a high batting average, but modern stats only enhance his status as one of the most valuable sluggers of his era. Greg Maddux, Randy Johnson or Pedro Martinez. Take your pick from this trio of stellar pitchers who combined to win a dozen Cy Young Awards. Martinez's 1997-2000 peak may have been the best of the bunch, although Maddux's incredible 1992-95 stretch was limited a bit by a couple strike-shortened seasons. Johnson pitched until he was 46, and only Nolan Ryan has more strikeouts than the 6-foot-10 left-hander. □

NCAA presents options to expand March Madness tournaments from current 68 teams

By DOUG FEINBERG
AP Basketball Writer

The NCAA has presented a plan to Division I conference commissioners that would expand the lucrative men's and women's basketball tournaments by four or eight teams alongside an option to leave each field at 68 teams, according to a person familiar with the details.

The proposals were outlined to the commissioners this week by NCAA Senior Vice President of Basketball Dan Gavitt and NCAA Vice President for Women's Basketball Lynn Holzman, the person told The Associated Press on Thursday on condition of anonymity because no official announcements have been made. The news was first reported by Yahoo! Sports.

Under the proposal, expansion of the 68-team field included both four- and

eight-team models. The NCAA would keep its 64-team bracket but would add play-in games involving the 10 through 12 seeds. If the men's tournament were to expand it is expected the women's tournament would as well.

There are many in college basketball who have said they believe the 68-team fields and three weekends of play are ideal but pressure has grown to add teams and games to one of the most popular sports events on the U.S. calendar. Last year, the NCAA Division I board of directors approved recommendations that included allowing one quarter of teams in larger sports to compete in championship events; in that scenario, March Madness tournaments could expand to nearly 90 teams. The NCAA is currently in the midst of an eight-year ex-

tension of its TV deal for the men's tournament worth \$8.8 billion that runs through 2032. That would not be expected to change if a handful of teams are added.

More games would provide a small boost through ticket sales and merchandise, but the pool of money the NCAA uses to pay out conferences and member schools would essentially stay the same. What could change, however, is how that money would be divided up if the tournament broadens.

Expansion would also mean the men's tournament would have to find an additional site besides Dayton for its First Four games. The Ohio city already has games on Tuesday and Wednesday and wouldn't be able to host additional play-in games ahead of the tourney's traditional

first-round opening on Thursday. Women's play-in games are at the same campus sites as the first two rounds of the tournament. Expansion is largely backed by larger conferences and smaller leagues do not

want to lose the automatic bids that come with a conference tournament championship or face the prospect of always being slotted for the play-in games. □



Staff members for the NCAA place the names of the teams in the Sweet 16 on a bracket in the media workroom before practices at the East Regional of the NCAA college basketball tournament in New York, March 23, 2017.

Associated Press



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The Lakers are hiring J.J. Redick as their new head coach, an AP source says

By **GREG BEACHAM**

AP Sports Writer

LOS ANGELES (AP) — JJ Redick is being hired as the head coach of the Los Angeles Lakers, a person with knowledge of the decision tells The Associated Press.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity Thursday because the Lakers hadn't yet publicly announced the decision to hire the former guard for his first coaching job. The 39-year-old Redick is an extraordinary choice by the Lakers, who hired a 15-year veteran with absolutely no coaching experience to lead a franchise with 17 NBA titles, one of the biggest brand names in world sports and LeBron James, the top scorer in league history. Redick was a proficient outside shooter for six teams before his retirement in September 2021, when he moved into a career in broadcasting and podcasting. He joined ESPN's lead commentary team earlier

this year. ESPN first reported the decision. Before Redick finished broadcasting the NBA Finals, he met with the Lakers last weekend and apparently did well enough to end the franchise's lengthy coaching search. Less than two weeks after UConn coach Danny Hurley turned down the Lakers' ardent advances, Redick has accepted the job in a remarkable three-year journey from the court to the broadcast booth to the Lakers' bench.

Redick replaces Darvin Ham, who was fired May 3 despite leading the Lakers to two playoff berths and a Western Conference finals appearance in 2023. Redick began recording a regular podcast with James two months ago, and their "Mind the Game" collaboration is already wildly popular, with listeners often emerging impressed by the duo's basketball acumen and high-level discussion of tactics

and motivation.

Now these two minds will be working together for the Lakers, with Redick leading a roster headlined by James, who is six months younger than Redick.

Everything is contingent on James deciding to return to play with Anthony Davis and the Lakers, of course. James, who will enter his 22nd NBA season this fall, could decline his \$51.4 million contract option this month to become a free agent.

But hiring Redick seems to be another calculated move by the Lakers to maximize their chances of keeping the 20-time All-Star and the driving force behind their 2020 championship team.

Redick's coaching experience is limited to his children's youth teams, but he has been around the game his entire life. He is the leading scorer in the history of Duke, where he played four seasons under Mike Krzyzewski. □



J.J. Redick arrives for Game 4 of the NBA basketball finals between the Dallas Mavericks and the Boston Celtics, Friday, June 14, 2024, in Dallas.

Associated Press